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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/865,798	05/25/2001	Kenneth F. Braam	ROC920010110US1	5520
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IBM Corporation Intellectual Property Law, Dept. 917 3605 Highway 52 North Rochester, MN 55901-7829			HUA, LY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2135	
DATE MAILED: 12/20/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/865,798

Applicant(s)

BRAAM ET AL.

Examiner

Ly V. Hua

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-16, 19-22 and 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 18 and 23-26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/6/2001, 5/26/2004

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
2. Claim 1-7, 11, 12, 19, 21, 27 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Katz et al (5,926,624).
3. Claim 1 claims a physical device placement system
 - a. for servicing
 - i requests for placement information,
 - b. comprising:
 - i a machine information database
 - (1) containing
 - (a) machine information
 - (i) for a plurality of uniquely identified computers
 - 1) operated
 - a) by customers
 - i) of a computer manufacturer, and
 - ii a configuration system
 - (1) in communication with
 - (a) the machine information database and
 - (2) configured to:
 - (a) receive
 - (i) a configuration request
 - 1) for placement information
 - a) of a specified hardware device
 - i) in a particular computer having representative machine information in the machine information database,
 - 2) from an authorized user
 - a) wherein at least one type of authorized user is
 - i) each of a plurality of customers of a computer manufacturer operating a computer represented in the machine information database; and
 - (b) respond with the placement information.
4. As to claim 1, Katz et al (5,926,624) teaches [Figure 2, col. 8, lines 5-63] a physical device placement system
 - a. for servicing
 - i requests
 - (1) for placement information,
 - b. comprising:
 - i a machine information database [272]
 - (1) containing
 - (a) machine information
 - (i) for a plurality of uniquely identified computers operated by customers of a computer manufacturer; and
 - ii a configuration system [260]
 - (1) in communication with
 - (a) the machine information database and
 - (2) configured to:
 - (a) receive [via element 240 (col. 8, lines 5-63)]
 - (i) a configuration request
 - 1) for placement information
 - a) of a specified hardware device [212, 214 or 226]
 - i) in a particular computer having representative machine information in the machine information database,
 - 2) from an authorized user [at element 210]
 - a) wherein at least one type of authorized user is
 - i) each of a plurality of customers of a computer manufacturer operating a computer represented in the machine information database [as identified in element 272]; and
 - (b) respond with the placement information [stored in element 262 (col. 8, lines 5-63)].

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| <p>5. Claim 19 claims a method</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. of servicing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i requests <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) for physical device placement information, b. comprising <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) receiving, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) at a physical device placement system, (ii) a configuration request <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) for placement information <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) of a specified hardware device <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i in a particular computer having representative machine information in a machine information database, 2) from an authorized user <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) wherein at least one type of authorized user is <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i each customer of a computer manufacturer operating a computer represented in the machine information database device, (b) generating the placement information; and (c) responding with the placement information. | <p>6. As to claim 19: This claim has limitations that are similar to those of claim 1, therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale applied thereto.</p> |
| <p>7. As to claim 2:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Claim 2 claims <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i 2. The system of claim 1, wherein each of a plurality of customers is registered with an operator of the physical device placement system. b. Katz teaches that in his system, each of the users/customers/clients is registered [and have client information registered in element 272] | |
| <p>8. As to claims 3 and 7:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Claims 3 and 7 claim: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i 3 The system of claim 1, further comprising: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) a network connection between the configuration system and an internet, (2) wherein the configuration system receives the requests for placement information from the internet; and (a) a configuration information database <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) accessible by the configuration system and (b) containing configuration information specifying placement of a plurality of hardware devices in computer systems. ii 7. The system of claim 1, further comprising <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) a configuration information database (a) accessible by the configuration system and (b) containing configuration information specifying placement of a plurality of hardware devices in computer systems. b. With respect to claims 3 and 7, Katz teaches that his system further comprises: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i a network connection <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) between <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the internet [240] and (b) the configuration system [260] (i) wherein the configuration system [260] receives <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the requests <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) for placement information b) from the internet; and ii a configuration information database [262] <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) accessible by the configuration system [260] and (2) containing configuration information specifying placement of a plurality of hardware devices in computer systems. | |

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9. As to claim 4:
 - a. Claim 4 claims:
 - i. The system of claim 1, wherein the configuration system
 - (1) maintains a network connection with the Internet and
 - (2) receives the requests for placement information therefrom.
 - b. Katz teaches that in his system, the configuration system [260]
 - i. maintains [as shown in Figure 2] a network connection with the Internet [240] and
 - ii. receivers that request for placement information therefrom.

10. As to claim 5:
 - a. Claim 5 claims:
 - i. 5. The system of claim 1, wherein the machine information database contains machine reported information for the plurality of uniquely identified computers.
 - b. Katz teaches that in his system the machine information database contains
 - i. machine information for the plurality of uniquely identified computers, which machine information is inherently be machine reported information since information stored in a computer system must be reported by machine(s) in one form or another.

11. As to claim 6:
 - a. Claims 6 claims:
 - i. 6. The system of claim 1, further comprising
 - (1) a purchase order database containing a plurality of purchase orders each containing a machine type descriptor and a serial number.
 - b. Katz teaches that his system further comprises
 - i. a purchase order database [264]
 - (1) containing
 - (a) a plurality of purchase orders [col. 8, lines 23-30, and 45-53]
 - (i) each containing
 - 1) a machine type descriptor and a serial number [client identifiers (col. 8, line 23)].

12. As to claims 11 and 12:
 - a. These claims claim:
 - i. 11. The system of claim 1, further comprising
 - (1) a security system
 - (a) configured to restrict
 - (1) access
 - 1) to the configuration system
 - 2) to requests for placement information
 - 3) submitted by authorized users from an external network.
 - ii. 12. The system of claim 11, wherein the external network is the Internet.
 - b. Claim 1, upon which claim 11 depends, has been addressed above with reference to Katz.
 - c. Katz also teaches:
 - i. a security system [i.e., a combination of elements 270 and 280]
 - (1) configured to restrict
 - (a) access
 - (i) to the configuration system
 - (ii) to requests for placement information
 - (iii) submitted by authorized users from the Internet; and

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13. As to claim 21:
- a. Claim 21 claims:
 - i 21. The method of claim 19, wherein receiving the configuration request comprises receiving the configuration request via the Internet.
 - b. Katz teaches that the receiving of the configuration request is via the Internet 240 [col. 4, lines 51-53].

14. As to claim 27:
- a. Claim 27 claims:
 - i 27. The method of claim 19, further comprising authenticating
(1) the authorized user
(2) before generating the placement information.
 - b. Katz teaches that his site 250 authenticating the user before generating the information requested by the user.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

15. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
16. Claim 9, 10, 13, 20 and 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Katz ('624' as applied to claims 1 and 19 above, further in view of Valencia (5,918,019).

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| <p>17. Claim 9 claims: 9. The physical device placement system (Figure 1) of claim 7,</p> <p>a. wherein the configuration system (—104—) comprises:</p> <p>i a first server (210)</p> <p>(1) configured for establishing a first network connection</p> <p>(a) with a plurality of client machines</p> <p>(i) each configured to transmit requests for placement information to the first server,</p> <p>ii a second server (208)</p> <p>(1) having</p> <p>(a) a second network connection</p> <p>(i) with the first server (210);</p> <p>iii an access partition</p> <p>(1) 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the access partition comprises a firewall.</p> <p>(a) between</p> <p>(i) the first server (210) and</p> <p>(ii) the second server (208) and</p> <p>(b) configured to restrict</p> <p>(i) information flow</p> <p>1) from the first server (210)</p> <p>2) to the second server (208); and</p> <p>iv a physical device placement server (130)</p> <p>(1) in communication</p> <p>(a) with</p> <p>(i) the configuration information database and</p> <p>(ii) the machine information database.</p> <p>b. 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the access partition comprises a firewall [28].</p> | <p>18. As to claims 9 and 10:</p> <p>a. Katz teaches that his server</p> <p>i wherein the configuration system [Figure 2] comprises:</p> <p>(1) a physical device placement server [260]</p> <p>(a) in communication</p> <p>(i) with</p> <p>1) the configuration information database [262] and</p> <p>2) the machine information database [272].</p> <p>b. Valencia teaches a physical device placement system [Figure 2],</p> <p>i wherein the configuration system [22] comprises:</p> <p>(1) a first server [14]</p> <p>(a) configured for establishing a first network connection [16]</p> <p>(i) with a plurality of client machines [26]</p> <p>1) each configured to transmit requests for placement information to the first server [14],</p> <p>(2) a second server [20]</p> <p>(a) having</p> <p>(i) a second network connection [22]</p> <p>1) with the first server [14] via Firewall 28 and Internet 18);</p> <p>(3) an access partition [28]</p> <p>(a) wherein the access partition comprises a firewall [28]</p> <p>(i) between</p> <p>1) the first server [14] and</p> <p>2) the second server [20] and</p> <p>(ii) configured to restrict [as is a function of a firewall]</p> <p>1) information flow</p> <p>a) from the first server [14]</p> <p>b) to the second server [20]; and</p> <p>(4) a physical device placement server [a resource that could be served by any one of element 26 served by any element 22].</p> <p>c. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to: further provide (in view of Valencia's teaching) a second network connection (such as that of Valencia) in the system of Katz to serve clients that are local to the servicing.</p> <p>d. The skilled person would have been motivated to do such provision because: it is a common practice in the art of network servicing to serve both Internet clients and local clients; Valencia teaches both of remote client and local client being served as clients; and Katz teaches: (1) [col. 5, lines 8-12] that his system 260 can be implemented as a computer system such as the one described in his Figure 1; and (2) [Figure 1; col. 3 line 14 to col. 4, line 41] that his computer system, which can be implemented for his system 260, has connections available for connecting to Internet and to LAN.</p> |
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19. As to claim 13:
 - a. Claim 13 claims:
 - i. 13. The system of claim 11, further comprising
 - (1) a plurality of internal client machines
 - (a) having a network connection with the configuration system, wherein the network connection bypasses the security system and
 - (b) wherein the configuration system is further configured to process requests for placement information from the plurality of internal client machines.
 - b. Claim 11, upon which claim 13 depends, has been addressed above with reference to Katz.
 - c. However, Katz does not explicitly teach:
 - i. a plurality of internal client machines,
 - (1) having a network connection with his configuration system,
 - (a) wherein the network connection bypasses his security system and
 - ii. that his configuration system, which is configured to process requests for placement information, processes requests from the plurality of internal client machines.
 - d. Valencia (5,918,019) teaches:
 - i. a second network connection [22]
 - (1) between
 - (a) a system [a system operated by a company operating LAN 22 (e.g., "any of the resources ... on LAN 22" (col. 3, lines 57-67)]
 - (b) a plurality of internal client machines [23],
 - (2) wherein
 - (a) the second network connection [22]
 - (1) bypasses [notice that clients 23 internal to the LAN 22 do not go through the firewall 28]
 - 1) the security system and
 - (3) wherein the system ["any of the resources" served by the company operating LAN 22]
 - (a) is further configured to process requests
 - 1) for placement information
 - 2) from the plurality of internal client machines.
 - e. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to:
 1. further provide (in view of Valencia's teaching) a second network connection (such as that of Valencia) in the system of Katz to serve clients that are local to the servicing.
 - f. The skilled person would have been motivated to do such provision because:
 - i. it is a common practice in the art of network servicing to serve both Internet clients and local clients. Notice that Valencia teaches both of remote client and local client being served.
20. As to claim 20:
 - a. Claim 20 claims:
 - i. 20. The method of claim 19, wherein another type of authorized user comprises one of a sales person and a field engineer of the computer manufacturer.
 - b. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to realized that the authorized user of Katz could be a field engineer or a sales person since the user having the client information stored in element 272 could be any body who registered for the service.

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21. As to claim 22:

- a. Claim 22 claims:
 - i. 22. The method of claim 19, wherein receiving the configuration request comprises receiving the configuration request from one of an internal client computer and an external client computer.
- b. The limitation of having Katz's server 260 to serve request from the Internet and from local network (e.g., LAN) has been addressed above in the rejection of claim 14, which reason for the rejection is hereby re-applied against claim 22.
- c. Katz does not explicitly teach:
 - i. a second network connection
 - (1) between
 - (a) his configuration system and
 - (b) a plurality of internal client machines,
 - (2) wherein
 - (a) the second network connection
 - (i) bypasses
 - 1) his security system and
 - ii. that his configuration system
 - (1) which is configured to process
 - (a) requests
 - (i) for placement information
 - (ii) from the plurality of internal client machines.
- d. Valencia (5,918,019) teaches:
 - i. a second network connection [22]
 - (1) between
 - (a) a system [a system operated by a company operating LAN 22 (e.g., "any of the resources ... on LAN 22" (col. 3, lines 57-67)]
 - (b) a plurality of internal client machines [23],
 - (2) wherein
 - (a) the second network connection [22]
 - (i) bypasses [notice that clients 23 internal to the LAN 22 do not go through the firewall 28]
 - 1) the security system and
 - (3) wherein the system ["any of the resources" served by the company operating LAN 22]
 - (a) is further configured to process
 - (i) requests
 - 1) for placement information
 - 2) from the plurality of internal client machines
- e. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to:
 - i. further provide (in view of Valencia's teaching) a second network connection (such as that of Valencia) in the system of Katz to serve clients that are local to the servicing.
- f. The skilled person would have been motivated to do such provision because:
 - i. it is a common practice in the art of network servicing to serve both Internet clients and local clients;
 - ii. Valencia teaches both of remote client and local client being served as clients; and
 - iii. Katz teaches:
 - (1) [col. 5, lines 8-12] that his system 260 can be implemented as a computer system such as the one described in his Figure 1, and
 - (2) [Figure 1; col. 3 line 14 to col. 4, line 41] that his computer system, which can be implemented for his system 260, has connections available for connecting to Internet and to LAN.

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22. Claims 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katz et al (5,926,624) in view of Valencia (5,918,019).

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| <p>23. Claim 14 claims a physical device placement system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. for servicing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 requests for placement information, b. comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i a machine information database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) containing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) machine information (b) for a plurality of uniquely identified computers (i) operated by customers ii a configuration information database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) containing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) configuration information (i) specifying placement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) of a plurality of hardware devices i) in computer systems; iii a configuration system with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) in communication with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the machine information database and (b) the configuration information database and (2) configured to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) receive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a configuration request <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 for placement information of a specified hardware device <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i in a particular computer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> {1} having {a} ii representative machine information {1} in the machine information database; (ii) from an authorized user <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 wherein at least one type of authorized user is each registered customer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i of a computer manufacturer ii operating a computer {1} represented in the machine information database; (b) generate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) by combining <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 the configuration information and (ii) the machine information 2 the placement information applicable to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the specified hardware device and b) the particular computer; | <p>24. As to claim 14:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Katz et al (5,926,624) teaches [Figure 2, col. 8, lines 5-63] a physical device placement system [250] for servicing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 requests for placement information, comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i a machine information database [272] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) containing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) machine information (b) for a plurality of uniquely identified computers (i) operated by customers ii a configuration information database [262] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) containing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) configuration information (i) specifying placement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) of a plurality of hardware devices i in computer systems; iii a configuration system [260] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) in communication with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the machine information database and (b) the configuration information database and (2) configured to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) receive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a configuration request <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 for placement information of a specified hardware device <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i in a particular computer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> {1} having {a} ii representative machine information {1} in the machine information database; (ii) from an authorized user <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 wherein at least one type of authorized user is each registered customer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i of a computer manufacturer ii operating a computer {1} represented in the machine information database; (b) generate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) by combining <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 the configuration information and (ii) the machine information 2 the placement information applicable to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the specified hardware device and b) the particular computer; and (c) respond <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) with the placement information; iv a first network connection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) between <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the configuration system [260] and (b) an internet [240]; (2) wherein <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the configuration system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) receives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 the requests a) for placement information from the internet; v a security system [i.e., a combination of elements 270 and 280] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) configured to resist |
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| <p>and</p> <p>(c) respond
(i) with the placement information;</p> <p>iv a first network connection
(1) between
(a) the configuration system and
(b) an internet;
(2) wherein
(a) the configuration system
(i) receives
1) the requests
a) for placement information
from the internet;</p> <p>v a security system
(1) configured to restrict
(a) access
(i) to the configuration system
(ii) to requests
1) for placement information
submitted
a) by authorized users
i) from the internet; and</p> <p>vi a second network connection
(1) between
(a) the configuration system and
(b) a plurality of internal client machines,
(2) wherein
(a) the second network connection
(i) bypasses
1) the security system and
(3) wherein the configuration system
(a) is further configured to process
(i) requests
1) for placement information
from the plurality of internal
client machines.</p> | <p>(a) access
(i) to the configuration system
(ii) to requests
1) for placement information
submitted
a) by authorized users
i) from the internet; and</p> <p>vi a second network connection
(1) between
(a) the configuration system and
(b) a plurality of internal client machines;
(2) wherein
(a) the second network connection
(i) bypasses
1) the security system and
(3) wherein the configuration system
(a) is further configured to process
(i) requests
1) for placement information
from the plurality of internal client machines.</p> <p>b. However, Katz does not explicitly teach:
i a second network connection
(1) between
(a) his configuration system and
(b) a plurality of internal client machines,
(2) wherein
(a) the second network connection
(i) bypasses
1) his security system and
ii that his configuration system
(1) which is configured to process
(a) requests
(i) for placement information
(ii) from the plurality of internal client machines.</p> <p>c. Valencia (5,918,019) teaches:
i a second network connection [22]
(1) between
(a) a system [a system operated by a company operating LAN 22 (e.g., "any of the resources ... on LAN 22" (col. 3, lines 57-67)]
(b) a plurality of internal client machines [23],
(2) wherein
(a) the second network connection [22]
(i) bypasses [notice that clients 23 internal to the LAN 22 do not go through the firewall 28]
(3) wherein the system, "any of the resources" served by the company operating LAN 22
(a) is further configured to process
(i) requests
1) for placement information
2) from the plurality of internal client machines.</p> <p>d. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to:
i further provide (in view of Valencia's teaching) a second network connection (such as that of Valencia) in the system of Katz to serve clients that are local to the servicing.</p> <p>e. The skilled person would have been motivated to do such provision because:
i it is a common practice in the art of network servicing to serve both internet clients and local clients;
ii Valencia teaches both of remote client and local client being served as clients; and
iii Katz teaches:
(1) [col. 5, lines 8-12] that his system 260 can be implemented as a computer system such as the one described in his figure 1, and
(2) [Figure 1, col. 3 line 14 to col. 4, line 41] that his computer system, which can be implemented for his system 260, has connections available for connecting to Internet and to LAN.</p> |
|--|---|

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| | |
|---|---|
| <p>25. 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the machine information database contains</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. machine reported information <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i for the plurality of uniquely identified computers. b. 16. The system of claim 14, further comprising a purchase order database (136) containing a plurality of purchase orders each containing a machine type descriptor and a serial number. | <p>26. As to claim 15:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Katz teaches that in his system the machine information database contains <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i machine information for the plurality of uniquely identified computers, which machine information is inherently be machine reported information since information stored in a computer system must be reported by machine(s) in one form or another. 27. As to claim 16: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Katz teaches that his system further comprises <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i a purchase order database [264] containing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a plurality of purchase orders [col. 8, lines 23-30, and 45-53] each containing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) a machine type descriptor and a serial number [client identifiers (col. 8, line 23)]. |
| <p>28. Claim 17 claims: 17. The physical device placement system (figure 1) of claim 14,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. wherein the configuration system (—104—) comprises: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i <u>an internal server (210)</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) configured for establishing a third network connection <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) with an external server (208), ii wherein the external server (208) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) is configured to establish <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a fourth network connection <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) with a plurality of external client machines; and iii wherein the security system (120) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) comprises a firewall (206) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) between <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the internal server (210) and (ii) the external server (208) and (b) is configured to restrict <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) information flow <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) from the internal server (210) and 2) the external server (208); and iv <u>a physical device placement server (130)</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) in communication <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) with <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the internal server (210), (ii) the configuration information database and (iii) the machine information database. | <p>29. As to claim 17:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Claim 17 has limitations that are similar to those of claim 9 and thus are rejected with the same reason applied thereto. |

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30. Examiner's Comment of minor problems observed:
- a. The applicant is to review and correct the following minor problems:
 - i. In claim 3:
 - (1) The term "an internet" is objected to since it is understood that the term actually refers to the Internet (which is one and only one existing in the world). The applicant is to change the term to "the Internet"; and to capitalize the word "internet" to Internet wherever it occurs.
 - ii. In claim 8:
 - (1) It appears that some text is missing between the words "wherein" and "configuration".
- Objections*
31. Claims 8, 18, 23, 24, 25 and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

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32. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

33. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ly V. Hua whose telephone number is (571) 272-3853. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vu Kim, can be reached on (571) 272-3854. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

34. The applicant is hereby notified that:

- a. The new phone number for TFC 2100 receptionist is (571) 272-2100.



Ly V. Hua
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2135

Lvh

December 12, 2004